

RABBI Z. DWORKIN

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[Translation]

With the help of Heaven

To all our brethren who cherish Torah
and especially to Anash [Lubavitchers]:

Greetings and blessing!

The Halachic ruling of the Rebbe, the Tzemach Tzedek, against removing one's beard (even without a razor) is well-known. However, many, even among those who study Torah think that this is an individual opinion [of the Tzemach Tzedek] and that the Halacha does not follow him, and [they think] that its permissibility is straightforward ["poshut"].

Therefore, let us express our gratitude to Rabbi Moshe Wiener, who has labored hard, investing much effort and financial expense to prove in an encyclopedic work [Sefer Hadrash Ponim - Zokon] that Halachic authorities and Rabbonim of all generations until our own rule just like the Tzemach Tzedek -- that it is totally prohibited ["issur gamur"] to remove one's beard, and those who do not observe this are in error and unaware of the seriousness of this matter.

In this work, [the author] not only quotes, clarifies and explains the ruling of those who hold like our Rebbe [the Tzemach Tzedek], but also resolves all Halachic objections brought against it [the Tzemach Tzedek's ruling].

Our Rebbe, shlita, too, encouraged and urged the author again and again to publish his work as soon as possible, in order to remove a stumbling block and potential for error from our Jewish brethren. The author has also been privileged to receive several of the Rebbe's comments and explanations.

It is a great privilege ["zechus"] for Anash to participate in helping the author with his great financial expenses [for publication]. This will be a major Kiddush Hashem [sanctifying G-d's name] and will increase the honor of Lubavitch among Yeshiva people who at present do not observe [the Halachic ruling] to let their beards grow.

*I hereby sign the above on this day of Erev Shabbos [Parshas] Shoftim,
5 Ellul, 5737, here in the city of Brooklyn:*

Signed: Zalman Shimon ben R' Yeruchem, of blessed memory, Dworkin